

REMARKS

Claim 4 is allowed. Claims 32-41 are cancelled, without prejudice, as being directed toward a previously non-elected invention. Thus, claims 1, 3, 5-25, 28 and 30-41 have been cancelled from the case. Claims 2, 26, 27 and 29 are amended. Claims 42 and 43 are new. No new subject matter is added. Reconsideration and allowance of claims 2, 4, 26, 27, 29, 42 and 43 is requested in light of the following remarks.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 4 is allowed.

Claim Objections

Claim 27 is objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c), as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. The applicant submits that the amendments to claim 26 and 27, which are explained in further detail below, render this objection moot.

Claim 29 is objected to under 37 CFR 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate of claim 26. It has been stated that "it is proper *after allowing one claim* to object to the other as being [a] substantial *duplicate of the allowed claim*. See MPEP § 706.03(k)" (emphasis added).

To the contrary, MPEP § 706.03(k) makes it clear that this objection would only be appropriate if claim 26 has been allowed. Since claim 26 is not allowed, the applicant submits that the objection to claim 29 is premature. Furthermore, the applicant submits that the amendments to claims 26 and 29, which are explained in further detail below, render this objection moot.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

Claims 2, 26, and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,788,510 to Walker ("Walker"). The applicant disagrees.

Claim 2 is amended. The changes to claim 2 are fully supported by the previous version of claim 2 and the original application at, e.g., claim 1; page 5, lines 10-17; page 6, lines 20-22; and FIGs. 9A and 9B.

Claim 2 recites, *inter alia*, a socket body arranged to electrically connect a first memory module in series between a second memory module and a base socket that is electrically connected to the first memory module.

Walker does not illustrate the above relationship between the alleged socket body 20 and a base socket that is electrically connected to the first memory module.

Consequently, Walker does not anticipate claim 2 because it fails to show the identical invention in as complete detail as contained in the claim. MPEP 2131.

Claim 26 is amended. The changes to claim 26 are fully supported by the original application at, e.g., claim 25; page 5, lines 10-17; page 6, lines 20-22; and FIGs. 9A and 9B.

Claim 26 recites, *inter alia*, that a memory module socket includes a socket body structured to electrically connect a first memory module having a first major surface and a second major surface in series between a second memory module having a first major surface and a second major surface and a base socket that is attached to a board.

Walker does not illustrate the above relationship between the alleged socket body 20 and a base socket that is attached to a board.

Consequently, Walker fails to anticipate claim 26 because it does not show the identical invention in as complete detail as contained in the claim. MPEP 2131.

Claim 27 is amended. The changes to claim 26 are fully supported by the previous version of claim 27 and the original application at, e.g., FIG. 9A.

Claim 27 depends from claim 26, and inherently contains the features of claim 26. Thus, Walker fails to anticipate claim 27 for at least the same reasons as claim 26. MPEP 2131.

Furthermore, claim 27 recites that the socket body is structured so that when the first and second memory modules are loaded in the socket body, the edges of the first and second memory modules that are not connected to the socket body point in opposite directions.

Walker fails to disclose this feature.

Consequently, Walker does not anticipate claim 27 for this additional reason. MPEP 2131.

Claim 29 is amended. The changes to claim 29 are fully supported by the previous version of claim 29 and the original application at, e.g., FIG. 11A.

Claim 29 depends from claim 26, and inherently contains the features of claim 26. Thus, Walker fails to anticipate claim 29 for at least the same reasons as claim 26. MPEP 2131.

New Claims 42 and 43

New claim 42 depends from claim 2 and is supported by the previous version of claim 2 and the original application at, e.g., FIG. 9A and associated written description.

Claim 42 depends from claim 2, and inherently contains the features of claim 2. Consequently, Walker fails to anticipate claim 42 for at least the same reasons it fails to anticipate claim 2. MPEP 2131.

Furthermore, contrary to claim 42, Walker fails to teach that the first and second memory modules are substantially aligned with a single plane.

For this additional reason, Walker does not anticipate claim 42.

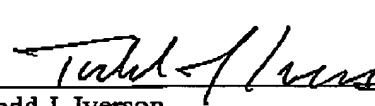
Claim 43 depends from claim 2 and is fully supported by the original application at, e.g., FIG. 11A and associated written description.

Claim 43 depends from claim 2, and inherently contains the features of claim 2. Consequently, Walker fails to anticipate claim 43 for at least the same reasons it fails to anticipate claim 2. MPEP 2131.

Conclusion

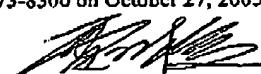
For the above reasons, reconsideration and allowance of claims 2, 4, 26, 27, 29, 42 and 43 is requested. Please telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

Respectfully submitted,
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is being transmitted to the U.S. Patent and
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